

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJECT: PREPARATIONS BEGIN FOR CABRAL VISIT

REFS: (A) 77 LISBON 9326 (NOTAL), (B) 77 BISSAU A-23 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: A GUINEA BISSAU ADVANCE TEAM ARRIVED IN LISBON
JAN 4 TO PREPARE FOR THE STATE VISIT TO PORTUGAL OF
PRESIDENT LUIS CABRAL JAN 11-14. THE GOP APPEARS TO BE
PULLING OUT ALL STOPS FOR THE VISIT. END SUMMARY.

1. ADVANCE TEAM ARRIVES: A GUINEA BISSAU ADVANCE TEAM
HEADED BY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR COOPERATION INACIO SEMEDO IS
MEETING WITH THE GOP TO PREPARE FOR THE
STATE VISIT JAN 11-14 TO LISBON OF PRESIDENT LUIS CABRAL.
A JOINT PORTUGUESE-GUINEA BISSAU COMMISSION WILL PREPARE
SEVERAL BILATERAL AGREEMENTS TO BE SIGNED DURING THE
STATE VISIT.

2. AGREEMENTS: THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS TO BE SIGNED
INCLUDE:

--A CULTURAL AGREEMENT WHICH, INTER ALIA, PROVIDES
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FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PORTUGUESE CULTURAL CENTER IN
BISSAU;

--A TEACHING AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AGREEMENT, WHICH
WILL FORMALIZE OUTSTANDING BILATERAL AGREEMENTS;

--A COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT;

--CONSULAR AND IMMIGRATION AGREEMENTS;

--A HEALTH AGREEMENT DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE MORE
PORTUGUESE DOCTORS TO SERVE IN GUINEA BISSAU;

--AN AGREEMENT TO FORMALIZE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO
CIVIL AVIATION; AND

--AN AGREEMENT REGARDING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARMED
FORCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.

3. WHILE JOINT SUB-COMMITTEES WILL HAMMER OUT DETAILS OF THESE
SPECIFIC TREATIES, THE JOINT COMMISSION HEADED BY
SEMEDO AND JOSE MATOS PARREIRA, DIRECTOR OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
OFFICE FOR COOPERATION, WILL REVIEW BILATERAL COOPERATION
BY SECTOR, EXPLORE NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION, AND DEVELOP
A GENERAL PROGRAM FOR THE SHORT AND MEDIUM TERMS. A SECOND JOINT
COMMISSION WILL EXAMINE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. (COMMENT: THE SECOND
COMMISSION WILL UNDOUBTEDLY TAKE UP THE SPECIAL GOP LOAN OF US
\$7 MILLION TO BISSAU TO SETTLE CLAIMS OF
PORTUGUESE BUSINESSMEN WHOSE ASSETS IN BISSAU WERE
NATIONALIZED AS REPORTED REPAIR.)

4. CABRAL SCHEDULE: HIGHLIGHTS OF CABRAL'S PROPOSED SCHEDULE
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JAN 11 - TALKS WITH PRESIDENT EANES;

JAN 12 - A MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER SOARES AND A
DINNER HOSTED BY PRESIDENT EANES;

JAN 13 - A LUNCH HOSTED BY PRIME MINISTER SOARES
FOLLOWED BY A PRESS CONFERENCE, A MEETING WITH THE LISBON
DIPLOMATIC CORPS, AND A MEETING WITH INDIVIDUALS FROM
THE CAPE VERDIAN-GUINEA BISSAU COMMUNITIES IN PORTUGAL. ALSO
SCHEDULED ARE VISITS TO THE PORTUGUESE NATIONAL ENGINEERING
LABORATORY, THE SUPERIOR AGRONOMY INSTITUTE (WHERE PAIGO
FOUNDER AMILAR CABRAL STUDIED), AND THE INSTITUTE FOR
TROPICAL MEDICINE, AS WELL AS A RECIPROCAL DINNER FOR EANES.

5. COMMENT: THE GOP IS PULLING OUT ALL STOPS FOR THE FIRST
VISIT OF A CHIEF OF STATE OF ONE OF PORTUGAL'S FORMER
COLONIES. THE WIDE MEDIA COVERAGE ACCORDED THE ARRIVAL OF
THE BISSAU ADVANCE TEAM GAVE THE PRESS A CHANCE TO TOUT THE
WARM RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS TO
UNDERScore THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO PORTUGUESE ASSISTANCE
BY PRESIDENT CABRAL. THE PORTUGUESE WILL SPARE NO EFFORT

TO MAKE THE VISIT A SUCCESS, HOPING THE RESULTS WILL
NOT BE LOST ON THE ANGOLANS AND MOZAMBICANS.
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